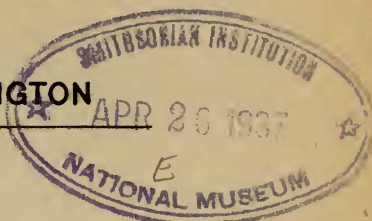


PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



THREE NEW BIRDS FROM THE MALAYSIAN  
SUBREGION.

BY J. H. RILEY.<sup>1</sup>

The three following birds from islands in the vicinity of Sumatra are believed to be undescribed. They may be known from the following descriptions:

***Malacornis cinerea niasensis***, subsp. nov.

*Type*.—Adult male, U. S. National Museum, no. 180,938, Mojeia River, Nias Island, western Sumatra, March 10, 1905. Collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott.

Similar to *Malacornis cinerea cinerea* (Eyton) of the Malay Peninsula, but averaging darker above and larger, especially the bill. Wing, 83.5; tail, 62; culmen, 17.

*Remarks*.—This form is founded upon three males, one female, and one unsexed from Nias. These have been compared with a good series from the Malay Peninsula and a small series from Banka, Sumatra, and Borneo. The series from the latter islands seem to agree with the mainland bird in color and size. While the color differences between Malay and Nias specimens are not great, the difference in size seems to be fairly constant.

Three adult males from Nias measure: wing, 79.5-83.5 (81.7); tail, 62-64 (63); culmen, 16-17 (16.7).

Ten adult males from the Malay Peninsula, measure: wing, 74-78 (76.3); tail, 59-63 (61.5); culmen, 15-16 (15.5).

Five males from Banka (1) and Sumatra (4), measure: wing, 73-78.5 (76.3); tail, 58-64 (61.6); culmen, 15.5-16 (15.8).

Six males from Borneo measure: wing, 71-78 (75.5); tail, 57.5-65 (59.9); culmen, 15-16.5 (15.7).

***Macronus ptilosus batuensis***, subsp. nov.

*Type*.—Adult male, U. S. National Museum, no. 179,984, Tana Bala, Batu Islands western Sumatra, February 13, 1903. Collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott.

Similar to *Macronus ptilosus ptilosus*, but averaging larger, especially

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the bill; the gray area of the breast more extensive. Wing, 72; tail, 64.5; culmen, 17.5.

*Remarks.*—This form is founded upon two specimens, the type and one unsexed, but almost certainly a male. They have been compared with a large series from the Malay Peninsula and a good series from Sumatra.

Ten males from the Malay Peninsula, measure: wing 62–70 (66.2); tail, 58.5–65 (61.2); culmen, 15–17 (16).

The two males from Tana Balla: wing, 70–72; tail, 60–64.5; culmen, 17.5–18.

Five males from Sumatra: wing, 66.5–71 (68.2); tail, 60–62 (60.9); culmen, 15.5–17 (16.3).

***Macronus ptilosus minor*, subsp. nov.**

*Type.*—Adult male, U. S. National Museum, no. 180,576 Klabat Bay, Banka Island, June 29, 1904, collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott.

Similar to *Macronus ptilosus reclusus* of Borneo, but averaging smaller, especially the bill; lighter below. Wing, 67; tail, 62; culmen, 16.

*Remarks.*—Both *Macronus ptilosus reclusus* and *Macronus ptilosus minor* differ quite widely from *Macronus ptilosus ptilosus* of Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula in lacking the gray chest patch of the latter, the upper- and lower-parts are a more tawny brown, and the black of the throat is more restricted. The present form is founded upon two males and one female from Banka and has been compared with four specimens from Borneo.

The three specimens from Banka, measure: wing, 66–68 (67); tail, 62–63 (62.3); culmen, 15.5–16 (15.8).

The four specimens from Borneo (two males, one female, and one unsexed) measure: wing, 70–73 (71.7); tail, 60–68 (63.6); culmen, 17–17.5 (17.1).